

Happy Friday! First, thank you so much for taking the time to read the IDEA fiscal listserv messages. This is proving to be a very effective communication tool. It was quickly made apparent yesterday after the listserv message went out that there is a lot of confusion regarding the June 7 ARRA-IDEA claim date. Rather than responding to everyone individually, we felt the best method would be to answer the questions and send out the responses to everyone. We hope you find your answers in this message.

Claims for IDEA funds are made on a cumulative basis. ARRA expenditures are cumulative since February 17, 2009. ARRA funds have an established timeline of data submission that is required under Section 1512 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. LEAs should have been submitting ARRA-IDEA financial data throughout the year at established intervals. The latest reporting period for the ARRA-IDEA claims are based on expenditures made through May 31, 2010. The next due date is June 7. This is actually the **fourth** due date.

The due dates are published in two different documents: the IDEA Grants Frequently Asked Questions, Claim section, H3 <http://dpi.wi.gov/sped/arra-faq.html#claims> and the IDEA Grants Management Timeline <http://dpi.wi.gov/sped/pdf/lpp-grants-timeline.pdf>

The following are questions we received since yesterday's listserv message was sent:

**1. What is the reporting period for the June 7, 2010, claim due date?**

Expenditures beginning February 17, 2009, through May 31, 2010.

**2. Is the June 7 date the last ARRA claim we can submit for this fiscal year?**

**No.** This is the claim due date for the ARRA 1512 financial data reporting requirement. The LEA may submit another claim for expenditures made after May 31 at any time.

**3. We submitted a claim for expenditures made through May 2, 2010. Do we need to submit another claim on June 7?**

**Yes,** if the LEA has ARRA-IDEA expenditures made after May 2 (using the date in this example).

**No,** if the LEA has not made any ARRA-IDEA expenditures after May 2 (using the date in this example).

**4. May we skip the June 7 ARRA claim due date and submit a claim later for expenditures through June 30 to close out the fiscal year?**

**No.** We have received many questions about being able to close out the fiscal year by submitting a claim for ARRA-IDEA expenditures made through June 30. LEAs are reminded that they may submit claims more frequently than quarterly. However, LEAs have an obligation to submit financial information (claims) for ARRA reporting according to the established due dates. LEAs who have ARRA expenditures must submit ARRA-IDEA claims by June 7 for expenditures

made through May 31, 2010. LEAs *may also* submit an additional claim after the close of the fiscal year for expenditures through June 30, 2010.

**5. Can we get an extension on the IDEA-ARRA claim due date of June 7?**

**No.** DPI does not have the authority to grant extensions to LEAs. The ARRA financial data must be submitted to White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) by the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) through the federal data reporting system. The DPI must provide the data to the DOA in time to meet OMB's deadline. LEAs must submit claims for expenditures made against the IDEA Recovery flow-through or preschool funds timely, so that the claims can be paid and these expenditures can be reported to the DOA.

**6. My question relates to payrolls for the current school year that will not be paid until June 18 so will not be in the June 7 claim. When do I file the claim for these since our fiscal cutoff is June 30?**

As soon as DPI has “approved” an IDEA claim another claim may be submitted. Approval of claims usually takes less than a week. In this example, the LEA must submit a claim on June 7, but then may also submit a claim for costs through June 18 on June 19.

**7. Our LEA usually submits claims on the 20<sup>th</sup> of the current month for the previous month. If we continue this practice, will we meet the reporting requirements for the ARRA grants?**

**No.** ARRA reporting has established due dates. The current due date is June 7 for expenditures made through May 31, 2010. In the question above, filing a claim on June 20 would not be timely.

**8. Does an LEA submit a final ARRA claim on June 7?**

**ONLY** if the LEA has actually expended all of the ARRA IDEA allocation awarded to the LEA.

**9. Does an LEA submit a final ARRA claim after June 30<sup>th</sup> (the close of the current fiscal year)?**

**ONLY** if the LEA has actually expended all of the ARRA IDEA allocation awarded to the LEA.

**10. We are going to submit a budget revision today; will it be reviewed in time for us to submit a claim on Monday?**

The Special Education Team’s practice is to review budget amendments within two weeks of submission. If you are hoping to get your budget amendment reviewed quickly, contact the consultant assigned to your district: <http://dpi.wi.gov/sped/sepcontact.html>. To avoid this situation, submit budget amendments at least two weeks prior to claim due dates.

**11. If an LEA made expenditures against the IDEA recovery funds, but does not submit a complete claim timely, what are the consequences?**

Timely, complete, and effective reporting under Section 1512 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is a term and condition of receiving Recovery Act funding ([Memorandum M-09-21](#)). Material omissions and significant reporting errors can result in termination of Federal funding and/or initiation of suspension and debarment proceedings of either the recipient or sub-recipient, or both. Further, in some cases, intentional reporting of false information can result in civil and/or criminal penalties.